

**caMatch: Connecting Patients with Clinical Trials  
Feature Story**  
[www.cabig.cancer.gov](http://www.cabig.cancer.gov)

**Elly Cohen:**

So caMatch technology was developed by the National Cancer Institute as a clinical trial matching engine. Currently there is one application: BreastCancerTrials.org, that is running on caMatch

**Elly Cohen:**

The user interface is one which is patient centered. The technology that enables the patient's data to be matched and the clinical trial eligibility criteria is what caMatch is all about.

***How did caMatch start?***

**Cohen:** The idea of BreastCancerTrials.org and the recognized need for a more personalized matching system as conceived by two breast cancer advocates, one of which had been diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer and had personal experience trying to find a breast cancer trial. She was frustrated by the resources that were available 10 years ago. She was overwhelmed by information and she just felt that there had to be a better way.

**Laura Esserman:** This was a patient-led, advocate-led initiative saying I would like this information. I want the information at my fingertips and my disposal to find out if there are clinical trials. That is great.

***What are the benefits of caMatch?***

**Cohen:**

One of the most important benefits is that it allows a patient to personalize her search for clinical trials and focus on those for which the patient is potentially eligible. It empowers a patient.

**Esserman:**

So from a public's perspective, the faster a trial accrues, the better the design, the faster the results are analyzed, the faster information comes to you about how to get better care. And that whole circle is really important about how to drive change. We want to be able to say every year I'm doing something better than I did last year...